



Fishing: Where the REEL Fun Happens

There are people who have never had the opportunity to enjoy nature, have never gone for a hike, have never gone camping, and have never simply jumped into a creek for a swim. Those people need a nature mentor.

Sharing a fishing experience with someone is a mentoring opportunity that can build relationships with your family and friends. Consider what happens when we share our fishing stories. The majority of these stories are much deeper than the over-exaggerated monster that broke the highest test pound fishing line, or broke the rod. Despite the series of events that took place, it's really about friends or family. These stories are memories to cherish for a lifetime and they're created with one common denominator – fishing!

Like all things in life, fishing is as hard or as easy as you make it. Fishing has likely existed since the beginning of time. However, it has officially dated back to some tens of thousands of

Flathead Catfish

Flathead catfish can be found in reservoirs or large streams with slow current. During the day, they prefer deeper water or cover. At night they move into riffles and shallow areas to feed upon other fish and crayfish. Adults commonly run 15 to 45 inches.

Carp

Carp prefer shallow water and feed on plant and animal material. They bite best on worms, canned corn and doughballs. Carp usually range from 1 to 8 pounds, but often grow much larger. Their flesh is bony, but flavorful.

White Crappie

Crappie usually prefer cover, such as brush beds placed by anglers, and submerged trees. They bite best on small jigs or minnows fished slowly and sometimes quite deep. These popular food fish usually run from 9 to 11 inches.

Goggle-eye

Goggle-eye, or rock bass, live in Ozark streams. They prefer nooks and crannies of root wads and undercut rocks in running water. They feed on crayfish, small fish and aquatic insects. Adult goggle-eye commonly run up to 11 inches.

Golden Redhorse

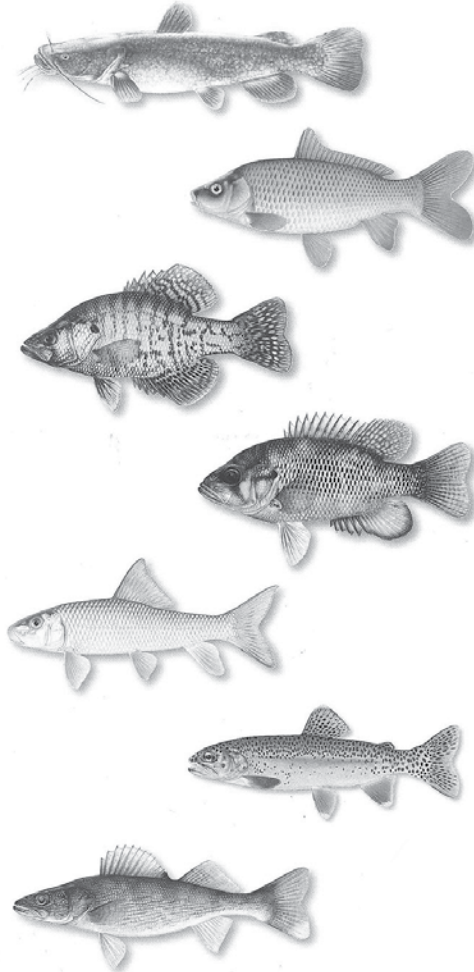
Golden redhorse can be found primarily in Ozark and northeast Missouri streams. These bottom feeders prefer the deeper pools of clear, gravelly rivers and streams, where they feed on aquatic insects. Adults commonly run 9 to 15 inches.

Rainbow Trout

Trout prefer cool, flowing water, but some are stocked in lakes in winter for anglers to catch. They bite on worms and insects and are a favorite of fly fishers. Trout typically range from 10 to 16 inches.

Walleye

Walleye are native to large rivers and streams in Missouri and have been stocked in reservoirs and selected streams. They feed on a variety of fish, including shad. They prefer deeper pools with rocky or submerged log cover in rivers, and creek channels and dropoffs in lakes and reservoirs. Adult walleye commonly run 12 to 28 inches.



fishing funds many wildlife and conservation programs. These funds go directly to support fish, forest and wildlife conservation efforts within the state.

When you mentor someone new to fishing, share with them what thrills you about it. For many, the thrill lies within the challenge, such as repeatedly casting a fly rod for trout on a cold stream or lake in the winter, or bobber fishing for bluegills on a lake or pond in the spring. A lot of excitement comes from the mystery of not knowing what you will catch that day. It could be a trophy fish, state record or a world record. The unknown can spur an addiction, promoting a desire to fish more often. There's also a great feeling of victory when you catch a large fish, fight and outsmart it, and finally reel it in. No matter your age, race or culture, fishing

has a tendency to bring a smile.

Check out the schedule of upcoming fishing events in this issue of the Tupelo Times. All bait and tackle is provided. Find more information about fishing at mdc.mo.gov/fishing and a full schedule of Cape Girardeau Conservation Nature Center programs at mdc.mo.gov/CapeNatureCenter.

--Kamaria Pearson
Angler Education Assistant

years ago. Time and technology has developed many new and various fishing equipment and methods, but the basic fundamentals remain the same. All you need is bait, a rod and reel, a body of water, and patience.

Fishing also contributes to conservation. The thrill is like no other, and it creates an opportunity to socially bond. Between purchasing fishing licenses and paying the 1/8 percent conservation state sales tax,

Volunteer Corner

Every Summer has a story

Our volunteers add.....



Volunteer Milestones

100 Hours

Sindupa De Silva

Tegan Mazurek

Yvonne Williamson

200 Hours

Karin Pelton

400 Hours

Randy Windeknecht

Roxane Magnus

Felicia Fox

1000 Hours

Steve Shelton

3000 Hours

Kenny Schiwitz

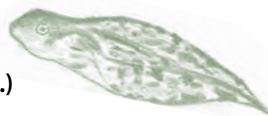


to our nature center story

Kids' Club Program Information

Tadpoles

(Shared nature experiences for 0-2 year olds and an attending adult.)



June

Saturday, June 25-9 or 10 AM

Going on a Bear Picnic

Are you as hungry as a bear? Black bears like to eat some of the things we do such as blueberries and blackberries. Find out more about the black bear and what else is on the menu as we head outside in search of food for a "bear picnic." **Ages 0-2. Registration begins June 1.**

July

Saturday, July 30-9 or 10 AM

Something's Fishy

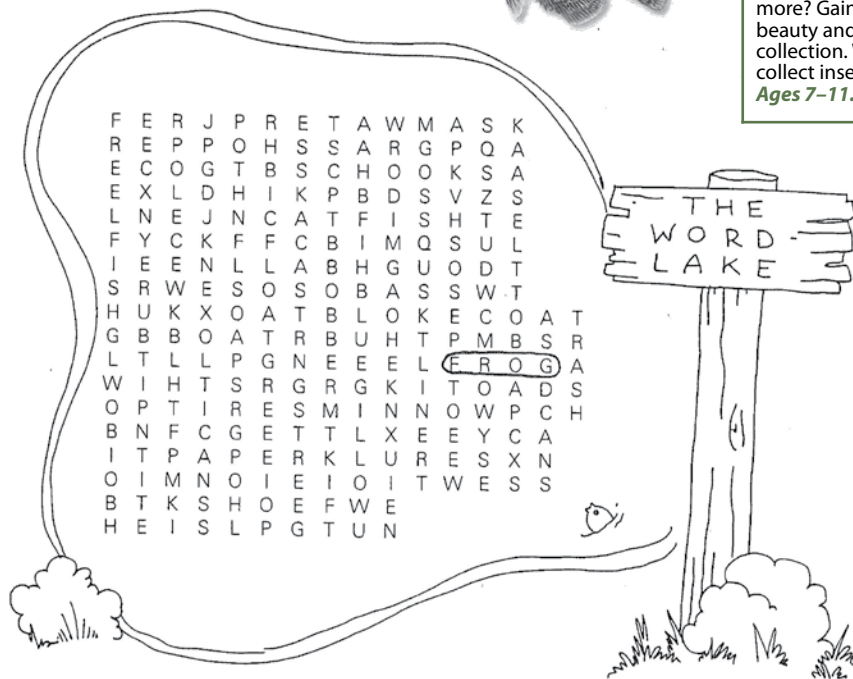
"Swim little fishy all over the pond!" Of course we know that fish swim, but what else are fish doing in the water? Engage your little one in activities to find out all about fish and what they do during the day. **Ages 0-2. Registration begins July 1.**

August

Saturday, August 27-9 or 10 AM

Buzzing Like a Bee

What's all the buzz about? Bees, of course! They are busy flying around looking for flowers to make delicious food called honey. Bring your little "honey bee" to learn more about these buzzy little insects. **Ages 0-2. Registration begins August 2.**



WHAT CAN YOU FIND IN A LAKE?

Mudpuppies

(45-minute indoor/outdoor programs for 3-6 year olds and an attending adult.)



June

Saturday, June 11-9:30 AM or 11 AM

Mudpuppy Mayhem

Come learn about our namesake and what makes them so cool! Mudpuppies live in Missouri but aren't often seen. We'll find out more about this mysterious creature. **Ages 3-6. Registration begins June 1.**

July

Saturday, July 9-9:30 AM or 11 AM

Beautiful Bats

Swoop in for some batty activities as we learn all about the bats of Missouri. These winged beauties do us a big favor when it comes to pest control. See why bats are great to have around. **Ages 3-6. Registration begins July 1.**

August

Saturday, August 6-9:30 AM or 11 AM

Tuesday, August 9-9 AM or 10:30 AM

Emerald Zig Zag Flyer

Hummingbirds show their bright green and red colors as they dance zigzags in the sky. What makes them the only bird able to fly like that and why do they need to? Zig Zag your way in to discover the answers. **Ages 3-6. Early registration begins July 15.**

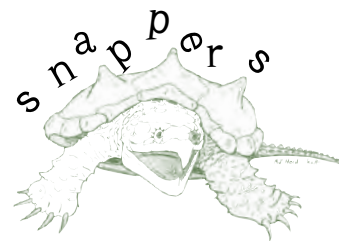
August

Saturday, August 13

10-11:30 AM

Budding Entomologists

Do you like insects and want to learn more? Gain an appreciation for their beauty and diversity as you start a mini collection. We will learn how to properly collect insects and pin them for your collection. **Ages 7-11. Registration begins August 2.**



Words to Find

bait	minnow
bass	oil
bluegill	paper
boat	pole
bobber	reel
bottles	rod
cans	shoe
carp	sinker
catfish	ski
coat	soap
doughball	tires
fish	toads
float	trash
frog	tree
grasshopper	water
hooks	wire
line	worm
lures	

Cape Girardeau Conservation Nature Center

2289 County Park Drive, Cape Girardeau, MO 63701 • mdc.mo.gov/node/297

JUNE

TO REGISTER FOR A PROGRAM:

Programs are free. Call 573-290-5218 to sign up for a program requiring registration. If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on the waiting list.

Trail Trivia

June 4 • Saturday • 9 AM-4 PM

No registration required (all ages)

Spend a couple of hours hiking and testing your nature knowledge to celebrate National Trails Day! Trek our trails and answer nature-related questions along the way. Stop by the nature center anytime to pick up your question sheet and then return to check your answers and claim your prize. Youth and adult groups welcome.

Discover Nature:

Women's Canoeing

June 4 • Saturday • 12:30-2 PM

Registration begins May 17 (ages 12+)

We will cover boating safety, equipment, and paddling techniques before spending time practicing on the North County Park Lake. All equipment provided.

Discover Nature:

Family Canoeing

June 4 • Saturday • 2:30-4 PM

Registration begins May 17 (ages 7+)

We will cover boating safety, equipment, and paddling techniques before spending time practicing on the North County Park Lake. All equipment provided.

Feeding Frenzy

June 9 • Thursday • 1-2 PM

No registration required (all ages)

Ever wonder what it takes to keep all of the nature center reptiles, amphibians, and fish happy? Thanks to some amazing animal care volunteers, they are fed a delicious smorgasbord of crickets, worms, minnows, and more! Drop by to visit with the volunteers and staff as they feed the hungry critters. Youth and adult groups welcome.

Art Gallery-June

Visit the lobby in June to view "See the Beauty," which features scenic Missouri views in pastels by local artist Marty Riley.

Discover Nature Fishing (Lesson 3)

June 9 • Thursday • 5-7 PM

Registration begins June 1 (ages 7-15)

This is the third lesson of the four part Discover Nature Fishing program. During this portion, there will be demonstrations on five common fish species in Missouri. This includes anatomy, habitat and life cycle. All gear will be provided. Lesson 1 is a prerequisite to participate in this lesson.

Youth Bowfishing

June 10 • Friday • 4-10 PM

Registration begins February 1 (ages 12-17)

Join MDC staff for an exciting evening of bowfishing from a boat. Participants will learn the basics of bowfishing safety, equipment, fish identification, regulations and much more. This program will consist of hands on instruction and shooting skills and then a bowfishing trip. Participants must have some archery experience and be able to draw a 25 pound bow multiple times. An adult guardian is also required to attend with the youth shooter. All equipment will be provided.

Free Fishing Weekend June 11 12

This is your chance to try fishing without purchasing a permit first.

Find MO Fish App - mdc.mo.gov/node/15421

Pond Catfishing

June 11 • Saturday • 11 AM-1 PM

Registration begins June 1 (ages 7-15)

Let's go fishing for catfish! You'll learn how to prepare bait, how to look for catfish habitat, and how to handle the fish the correct way. Then, after a few safety tips, you'll rig up and go fishing at the pond. All gear will be provided.

Meet the Artist

June 11 • Saturday • 2-4 PM

No registration required (all ages)

Visit with local artist Marty Riley as she works in pastels, acrylic, and possibly with tissue paper to create scenic landscapes, plants, and wildlife of southeast Missouri conservation areas and state parks.

Aquatic Adventure Camp

June 14-15, June 16-17, June 28-29,

June 30-July 1, or July 12-13

8:30 AM-4:30 PM

Early registration begins May 17 (ages 7-11)

From tiny trickling streams to the mighty Mississippi, this year's camp highlights southeast Missouri's aquatic habits. Get wet as we find out who lives where and why. **Each parent/guardian may only register their own child.** Participants may only attend one session.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Cape Girardeau Conservation Nature Center is located in North Cape Girardeau County Park off Kingshighway just east of Interstate 55 at exit 99.

The Cape Girardeau Conservation Nature Center is operated through hunting and fishing license revenues and through the 1/8% "Design for Conservation" sales tax. There is no admission charge.

BUILDING HOURS

Tuesday-Saturday: 8 AM-5 PM

Closed Sundays, Mondays,
and all state holidays.

AREA HOURS

Daily: Sunrise-10 PM in accordance with the Cape Girardeau County Park

RULES AND REGULATIONS

Nature center grounds and trails are closed to pets, horses, hunting, collecting, littering, fires, and alcoholic beverages. The trails are also closed to bicycles, jogging, in-line skates, skateboards, scooters, and motorized vehicles.

Phone: 573-290-5218

Fax: 573-290-5566

Discover Nature Fishing (Lesson 4)

June 16 • Thursday • 5-7 PM

Registration begins June 1 (ages 7-15)

Join us as we conduct the fourth lesson of the four part Discover Nature Fishing program. During this portion, there will be demonstrations on fishing with lures and fishing regulations. All gear will be provided. Lesson 1 is a prerequisite to participate in this lesson.

Missourians care about conserving forests, fish and wildlife.

Father's Day Fishing- Pond to Plate

June 18 • Saturday • 10 AM -1 PM

Registration begins June 1 (ages 5+)

Come celebrate your father (or father figure) while we go over the basics of fishing. We'll learn how to tie a knot, bait a hook, cast a line, and clean a fish. We'll spend some of the morning fishing. Afterwards we'll have a few fish recipes for you to try. Adult supervision required for ages 5-17. Attendees 16 and up must have a valid fishing permit.

JULY

TO REGISTER FOR A PROGRAM:

Programs are free. Call 573-290-5218 to sign up for a program requiring registration. If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on the waiting list.

Feeding Frenzy

July 7 • Thursday • 1–2 PM

No registration required (all ages)

Ever wonder what it takes to keep all of the nature center reptiles, amphibians, and fish happy? Thanks to some amazing animal care volunteers, they are fed a delicious smorgasbord of crickets, worms, minnows, and more! Drop by to visit with the volunteers and staff as they feed the hungry critters. Youth and adult groups welcome.

Nature Center at Night: Pond Life

July 7 • Thursday • 5–8 PM

No registration required (all ages)

Ponds are teeming with life from top to bottom! Some animals visit and others call the pond home. Discover the many layers of life in a pond through hands-on displays.

Nature Art:

Make Your Own Journal

July 7 • Thursday • 6–8 PM

Early registration begins June 15 (ages 16+)

We will be making a take along journal with replaceable inserts. It's a handy place to jot down our memories of the many outdoor adventures we have.

Fishing by Canoe at Lake Girardeau CA

July 9 • Saturday • 6–9 PM

Registration begins June 15 (ages 16+)

Evening is settling in and the fish are biting! We will cover fishing from canoe techniques and safety. Participants must know basic canoeing and fishing. Valid fishing license required. Bring your own or borrow our fishing equipment. All canoeing equipment provided.

Meet the Artist

July 9 • Saturday • 2–4 PM

No registration required (all ages)

Meet accomplished carver Mike Clippard as he uses hand tools to create bark carvings of Missouri wildlife. When he's not carving in southeast Missouri, you can find him demonstrating his skills at Silver Dollar City.

Hunter Education

(Ages 11 and up)

Step 1: Knowledge Session--complete one of three.

- **Self-Study Guide** – (Free) Pick up a manual at one of our offices. Study, answer the review questions, and present it at the skills session.
- **Classroom Session** – (Free) Register at <http://register-ed.com/programs/10> and attend a four-hour session of lecture.
- **Hunter Education Online** – (\$15 Fee) Visit <http://mdc.mo.gov/node/9173> for an online course.

Step 2: Skills Session--Register for a skills session at <http://www.register-ed.com/programs/missouri>.

Teen Aquatic Adventures

July 14–15 • Thursday–Friday •

8:30 AM–4:30 PM

Registration begins June 15 (ages 12–15)

Come explore the waterways of Southeast Missouri with our naturalists. From tiny trickling streams to the mighty Mississippi, we'll discover what lives in and around the water.

Turtle Mania

July 23 • Saturday • 1–4 PM

No registration required (all ages)

Join us for a turtle-tastic time! Shelled, clawed, and scaled, turtles are some of the oldest creatures on earth. Stop by to learn about the species in our state and how these unusual beings survive. We'll have turtle themed crafts and activities as well as live turtles to see. Youth and adult groups welcome.

MDC DISCOVER nature



Enjoy a guided audio tour from your smart/cell phone. Come by the front desk and scan the QR code or enter <http://bycell.co/cufx>. Touch "Welcome" to listen. From a cell phonem, dial 573-321-5595. Look for signs on railings, benches, and wooden posts.

Art Gallery-July

Visit the nature center's lobby this month to view, "Into the Woods," a collection of oil and watercolor paintings by Vel Marshall. The paintings feature birds, wildflowers, and trees found in southeast Missouri.



Mosquito Fern, Azolla mexicana

This tiny fern can be found floating on the surface in still waters. It is the only aquatic fern found in Missouri. This fern is often used by rice farmers as a source of fertilizer for their crops. This fern houses a blue-green algae, *Anabaena azollae*, which has the ability to fix nitrogen from the air. This nitrogen, in turn, leads to a higher crop yield. As a fern, this plant does not produce flowers but instead reproduces by making spores or breaking apart. In the spring, this fern is green but during the summer it turns red due to the bright sunlight.

Cape Girardeau Conservation Nature Center

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AUGUST

TO REGISTER FOR A PROGRAM:

Programs are free. Call 573-290-5218 to sign up for a program requiring registration. If you are unable to attend a program, please call and cancel as a courtesy to those on the waiting list.

Nature Center at Night: Outside the Box

August 11 • Thursday • 5-8 PM

No registration required (all ages)

Are you looking for some "outside the box" nature activities to do with your family? We'll have some new ideas for you. The exhibits will also be open. Youth and adult groups welcome.

Nature Art: Bird Adventures

August 11 • Thursday • 6-8 PM

Registration begins August 2 (ages 16+)

Even occasional bird watchers know more than they think. Let's see how many birds we can identify and maybe learn a new one or two while we make a scrapbook layout about our birding adventures.

*Conservation pays by enriching our
economy and quality of life.*

Archery Basics

August 12 • Friday • 6-7 PM

Registration begins August 2 (ages 12+)

Be right on target! Try your hand at archery and experience a fun way to enjoy the outdoors. All archery equipment will be provided. Adult supervision is required for ages 12-17.

Floatin' on the River

August 12 • Friday • 6-7:30 PM and

August 13 • Saturday • 7:30 AM-2:30 PM

Early registration begins July 15 (ages 16+)

Enjoy a float from Trail of Tears State Park to Red Star Access on North America's largest river—the mighty Mississippi! Eat lunch on a sandbar and explore the river with expert guides. This is for experienced paddlers only and participants must attend the Friday night session about navigation, river flows, hazards, and other important information in order to participate in the float.

Feeding Frenzy

August 18 • Thursday • 1-2 PM

No registration required (all ages)

Ever wonder what it takes to keep all of the nature center reptiles, amphibians, and fish happy? Thanks to some amazing animal care volunteers, they are fed a delicious smorgasbord of crickets, worms, minnows, and more! Drop by to visit with the volunteers and staff as they feed the hungry critters. Youth and adult groups welcome.

The Buzz about Pollinators

August 27 • Saturday • 9 AM-NOON

No registration required (all ages)

What do bees, flies, hummingbirds, and some beetles all have in common? They're all pollinators! We'll have pollinator displays, crafts, and activities for all ages. Come on out to learn how you can help these busy beasts. A pollinator program will be provided at 10 AM. Youth and adult groups welcome.

Art Gallery-August

Dr. Jack Zibluk's exhibit, entitled "Four Seasons in Southeast Missouri," will focus on the scenes we see all around us as we walk the nature trails and state parks. Zibluk is a professor of mass media at Southeast Missouri State who has also had his photography featured in National Geographic and Rolling Stone.

COMING IN SEPTEMBER

International Vulture Awareness Day

September 3 • Saturday • 1-3 PM

No registration required (all ages)

Join us in celebrating vultures! Often overlooked or misunderstood, the vulture is an important player in human health! Enjoy our vulture day crafts as you learn more about these helpful birds. Youth and adult groups welcome.

Nature Center at Night: The Grand Ole Opossum

September 8 • Thursday • 5-8 PM

No registration required (all ages)

Often sneered at for their looks, these amazing animals are North America's only marsupial. Don't know what a marsupial is? Come on in to learn more about the "possum". Youth and adult groups welcome.

Ask the Naturalist

Q. I've noticed fewer fish in my pond, could it be the beaver I see there?



A. No. Beavers are herbivores (vegetarians). Important foods for the beaver are cattails, water lilies and most importantly trees. Beavers not only gnaw through trees for building purposes but also to access the food they need. They will eat the inner bark of the tree as well as the buds and leaves of a felled tree. There are many other animals that do dine on fish that could be causing your fish to disappear: herons, barred owls, watersnakes, otters, raccoons, humans, and other fish could all be the culprits.

We help people discover nature.

Thank You

*for donations of Time, Material,
and Service*

*Fishing Equipment: Daniel Williams
Caterpillar Exhibit: Kelly Hughes*

*Those purchasing paving stones
for the Conservation Nature Center walkway:
The Davenport in memory of David Fiedler
For Kendall Deneke from Mr. & Mrs. Sims*

Educators' Niche

Discover Nature Schools

Insect Emporium Educator Workshop

Insects have a reputation for being creepy, crawly, scary creatures. We'll illuminate some unique characteristics that make these animals interesting and include information on identification, habitats and dilemmas facing insects. Participants will learn how to incorporate this information into their existing curricula. This workshop will be held at the Cape Girardeau Conservation Nature Center on June 22-24. Two hours of graduate credit is available from SEMO.

Conservation Sampler

The magnificent ecosystem of Mingo National Wildlife Refuge will be our backdrop as will sample activities focusing on aquatics, birds, and insects. Participants will learn how to incorporate this information into their existing curricula. This workshop will be held at the Mingo National Wildlife Refuge Visitor Center on July 12-14. One hour of graduate credit is available from SEMO.

Developing and Using an Outdoor Classroom

Taking your class outside has been shown to improve test scores and lessen behavioral issues. Are you interested in creating and using an outside learning environment for your students? This four day workshop has two components: the first two days will be spent focusing on developing an outdoor classroom; the last two days will be spent on using your outdoor classroom. Participants may attend all four days or the first two days or the last two days. This workshop will be held at the Cape Girardeau Conservation Nature Center on July 19-22. Graduate credit is available from SEMO.

Discover Nature Schools

The Discover Nature Schools (DNS) program provides new and interesting curriculum that incorporates hands-on outdoor activities featuring Missouri ecosystems. Teaching students outside has been shown to help improve test scores and help with behavior issues. Each unit comes with excellent teacher and student guides. These materials are free to public, private, or homeschool educators. Grant monies are also available for field trips and supplies for K-12 teachers in the public or private school sectors.

A DNS training is being offered at the Cape Girardeau Nature Center on August 6 from 9am-4pm.

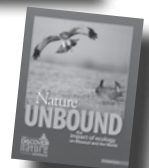
A training for the new pre-school unit, Nature Revealed, will be offered at the Cape Girardeau Nature Center on July 30 from 9am-4pm.

Nature Deficit Tidbit

Recently, there have been several international studies that have looked at the health benefits of living close to green space and the economic impact that it had. In 2009, Dutch researchers found a lower incidence of 15 diseases – including depression, anxiety, heart disease, diabetes, asthma, and migraines – in those that lived within half a mile of green space. In 2015, an international team discovered that Toronto residents that lived on blocks with more trees showed a boost in heart and metabolic health equivalent to what one would experience from a \$20,000 gain in income. It is believed that being so close to green areas lowers stress hormones. The lowest income people seemed to gain the most from this green area effect which led epidemiologist Richard Mitchell, from the University of Glasgow in Scotland, to say, "being close to nature is a social leveler."

This Is Your Brain on Nature. National Geographic, January 2016

For more information or to register, contact Bridget Jackson at 573-290-5858 ext 4464 or bridget.jackson@mdc.mo.gov.





**Saturday
August 27
9AM-12PM**

What's with all The Buzz About Pollinators ?

**From food to flowers and beyond, pollinators
play an important role in our lives!**

- Crafts**
- Activities**
- Live Pollinators**
- Pollinator Program**



**All Ages
Groups welcome!**